

## Punching the U.S. Military's "Soft Ribs": China's ASAT Test in Strategic Perspective

Policy brief by Ashley J. Tellis, Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment

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Dr. Tellis discusses the strategic logic behind China's Anti-Satellite Test and argues that China's counterspace programs are part of a considered Chinese strategy designed to counter the overall military capability of the United States by attacking its relatively vulnerable eyes, ears and voice. This study also surveys the emerging contours of China's counterspace programs and their implications for the United States, suggesting that China will not trade away its counterspace capabilities for any arms-control regime.

## Also featuring:

Michael Swaine, Senior Associate in the China program at the Carnegie Endowment

**Peter Hays**, Senior Policy Analyst with the Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) supporting the National Security Space Office (NSSO), as discussants.

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